

INDIANA SINCLAIR-TIMEX USERS GROUP

Here we are again, back in the saddle with another issue of the ISTUG newsletter. We are back on track!

This is a reminder to all ISTUG and Sinclair users out there that we will be having our almost always annual picnic this Saturday, June 26, 1993, starting at 1:30 P.M. and running on till we all get tired and want to go home. We will be providing some soft drinks, main meats, plastic ware and paper plates. All are encouraged to bring their favorite dishes to pitch in with this, such as salads, chips, desserts, other soft drinks. The map telling you how to get here is on the back for those who have never been here before. Should you have a question, then please give a call to your hosts, Carol and Frank Davis before 9 A.M. on Saturday, or if concerned about the weather and have a question. The guest house has not yet been finished, though I had hoped to have done so by now. I got behind schedule, when the MIRACLE IN NEWPORT SHOW came up, and I had to attend as UPDATE MAGAZINE and as MECHANICAL AFFINITY. The shows were worth going to and I will tell you more about them in a future issue.

We will provide picnic tables and the grills, the new plumbing is not hooked up, but port-o-potties will be available. There is electricity, and for any who bring a camper or tent and care to stay the night, that is okay. If you have a favorite lawn chair, then feel free to bring that. For those who wish to be of assistance in cooking feel free to arrive by 12:30 and you will be welcome. Refrigeration is available, as well as ice for your needs. Gosh this almost sounds like a brochure for a tourist trap...but have no fear of that, it is only a small country place near Peru, Indiana.

The July meeting of ISTUG will be held at 1:30 P.M. at the usual place, the Eagledale Public Library in Indianapolis, on July 31, 1993. For directions or to ask any questions about ISTUG, OR TO SCHEDULE SOMETHING IMPORTANT give a call to either Paul Hoimgren at 317-291-6882, or to Frank Davis at 317-473-8831 at any reasonable hour. We both still work for a living, so we are at work during the day. The August meeting will be held at the Dayton Computerfest during the weekend of August 28 and 29. Feel free to give Frank a call if you need more info on this. We have included a flyer about this show in this issue of the ISTUG NEWSLETTER. We hope to have a few hundred Sinclair users show up for our sub-show at Dayton, please be one of them. We are told that they have redone some of the floor plans for the show this year and that it will be to the benefit of user groups. This is a big show for all computers, but most of all I want to see my friends there! We have several get togethers for supper and breakfast, and at each others motel rooms in the evening, so you will be most welcome.

P.S. For those who want we will be setting aside an hour and a table for those attending the picnic to have a short swap

N

Wabash →

"new" U.S. 24

PERU

Stoplight
McDonalds
K-Mart
Krogers
Broadway
Main St.
U.S. 24



← 90 4 miles
Rd 150 S.

← 1/4 mi.
chain link fence
Davis
Country Place

↓ Kokomo

ISTUG
picnic
6-26-93
1:30 PM

E

LETS READ T/S 2068 JLO DISKS WITH YOUR QL

Well, here it is. You can read Timex 2068 Oliger disks with a QL with nothing more then a disk interface and ToolKit II. This is made easy due to the simplicity of the methods used to store information on the 2068 JLO system. At this time and present configuration a "basic" read is all this set of procedures does. Working out a set of "conversions" for the way Sinclair Basic is stored becomes fairly easy once you can get a file into the QL.

Now for the PROCedure explanations.

DEF PROC QL, this let me "see" the structure of a QL disk. Working with ASCII (text) files made it somewhat easy to study the methods used to store files and how they are distributed on the side, track, and sectors of a QL disk. I was able to develop a "memory map" of a QL disk this way.

DEF PROC INN, this was used in part with the PROC QL to help control my peeking about the QL disks. I typed INN, answered the prompts, then typed in QL.

DEF PROC OPN, this asks you which drive to look at. Opens a RAM disk file, and "OPENS" the target disk. So far, in all the experimentation with this utility I have NOT harmed a 2068 disk at all. But it is best to work on a copy of your disk.

DEF PROC TIM, this is meaty. It will read a sector of the 2068 disk and print it to the screen. It then asks if you want to transfer the material to the ram disk file, if so, then COPY the 10 sector block of "data" to the ram disk.

DEF PROC DISK_IT, does the actual copying of the track. Since I use the program "EDITOR SE" I use line 520 to print to the ram file the source track, side, and sector I was currently reading. It may be deleted if you wish.

DEF PROC AA & PDET, these just print information to the QL screen.

DEF PROC CLO, as far as the QL and my TRUMP card are concerned, this PROC was necessary. When you are done copying a file to the ram disk, it needs to be closed. The TRUMP card needs to see that the disk is "closed" the 2068 does not care.

DEF PROC REST, sets the drive heads to track, side, and sector 0, or "Parks" the drive heads if you need it.

These are the steps I use. So far, I am toying around with text files from MSCRIPT and TASWORD, and data files from PRO-FILE. For 2068 disks I type OPN (enter), then type TIM (enter), get the file(s) I am interested in, then CLO (enter).

Copy the ram file to a QL disk. Then load QUILL of EDITOR to work on the file to clean up and stray unwanted contents. This method "gets" all of a track (5120 bytes). So the file will have some "garbage" following any useable data to the end of the file. Usually just spaces or some such.

Experiment, use, enjoy, or just fool around with this. I believe that this can work on AERCO and LARKIN disks once you understand how they write to the disks. If you try this, you need to experiment with the FOR/NEXT loops in the PROC TIM.

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100 DEFine PROCedure rest : GET #4\257,a$ : a$='' : END DEFine
110 :
120 DEFine PROCedure opn
130 CLS : INPUT \\\\'Which drive ? ( 1/2 ) ' ;dr
140 OPEN_NEW #3,raml_2068_files : OPEN #4,'flp'&dr&'_d2d'
150 END DEFine
160 :
170 DEFine PROCedure clo : CLOSE #3 : CLOSE #4 : END DEFine
180 :
190 DEFine PROCedure aa : PRINT a$ : END DEFine
200 :
210 DEFine PROCedure ql
220 LOCAl track , side , sector
230 inn
240 FOR track = 0 to trk-1
250 FOR side = 0 to 1
260 FOR sector = 1 to 9
270 REMark rest
280 pdet
290 GET #4\sector+side+256+track*65536,a$ : aa
300 IF pause$=="y" THEN : PAUSE(-1)
310 END FOR sector : END FOR side : END FOR track
320 END DEFine
330 :
340 DEFine PROCedure tim
350 REMark JLO DOS uses track 0, sectors 1-10 for CAT and LOADER software
360 inn
370 FOR track = 0 TO trk-1
380 FOR side = 0 TO 1
390 FOR sector = 1 TO 2
400 REM rest
410 pdet
420 GET #4\sector+side+256+track*65536,a$ : aa
430 END FOR sector
440 CLS #0 : PRINT #0 : INPUT #0,"Relocate this side and track ? ";ans$
450 IF ans$=='y' THEN : disk_it
460 END IF : CLS #0
470 CLS : END FOR side : END FOR track
480 END DEFine
490 :
500 DEFine PROCedure disk_it
510 FOR sector = 1 TO 10
520 GET #4\sector+side+256+track*65536,a$
530 PRINT #3,'sector ' ;sector,'track ' ;track,;'side ' ;side\a$
540 END FOR sector
550 END DEFine
560 :
570 DEFine PROCedure pdet : PRINT 'sector ' ;sector,'track ' ;track,;'side
';side : END DEFine
580 :
590 DEFine PROCedure inn
600 CLS : CSIZE 1,1 DIM(pause$(1) : INPUT \"PAUSE ? ";pause$
610 INPUT \ '40 or 80 Tracks? ' ;trk
620 IF trk <> 40 AND trk <> 80 THEN : GO TO 610
630 END IF
640 CLS : CSIZE 0,0
650 END DEFine

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DAYTON MICROCOMPUTER ASSOCIATION INC.

COMPUTERFEST[®]

1993

**SATURDAY
AUGUST 28
10 AM - 6 PM**

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ISTUG is a not for profit, educational organization dedicated to helping users of Timex, Sinclair and Cambridge computers. We offer a hardcopy and software library for our membership along with technical assistance and monthly meetings (usually the last Saturday of the month at 1:30 P.M.). Full membership is available at \$12 per year and newsletter only subscriptions at \$9 per year. Send all inquiries, along with SASE, to ISTUG, 513 E. Main St., Peru, IN, 46970.